

## **Fort Wayne utilizes Indiana Brownfields Program assistance to help make way for a new stadium**

Four sites in the Harrison Square development area in the City of Fort Wayne were in need of environmental remediation before Fort Wayne could utilize the properties for mixed uses, including a hotel, 60 condominium units, a 900-space parking garage, and 30,000 square feet of retail space to be built in the areas adjacent to the planned ballpark for the Fort Wayne Wizards minor league baseball team. The new stadium is valued at \$30 million and will have a total capacity of 8,000-9,000 including lawn seating.

These four properties—a former vehicle maintenance facility, tire store, bus station, and beverage facility—were purchased by the city of Fort Wayne to facilitate this downtown revitalization project. The project is expected to open in 2009 and will include a new 250-room hotel that will serve the Grand Wayne Center convention facility as well as a park containing a water park and a small amphitheatre.

To make way for this project, the city demolished all structures on the four sites and utilized approximately \$125,000 of Indiana Brownfields Program's (Program's) Petroleum Remediation Grant (PRG) funding to perform environmental assessment and remediation at the sites. A total of five petroleum tanks, two hydraulic tanks, an oil/water separator, and 560 tons of contaminated soils was removed from the sites.

This project is well on its way to bringing more jobs, investment, and opportunities for family entertainment to downtown Fort Wayne. The Program is glad to have been able to assist with this project.